



DUANE MORRIS LLP  
ONE MARKET, SPEAR TOWER, SUITE 2000  
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94105-1104  
PHONE: 415.371.2200  
FAX: 415.371.2201

RECEIVED  
CENTRAL FAX CENTER

APR - 8 2004

OFFICIAL

## FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL SHEET

**TO:** Examiner UYEN T. HO – Group Art Unit: 3731

**FIRM/COMPANY:** U.S. Patent and Trademark Office

**FACSIMILE NUMBER:** 703.872.9306

**CONFIRMATION TELEPHONE:** 703.308.0858 (Receptionist) or  
703.306.3421 (Examiner)

**FROM:** Ruth Der, Paralegal

**DIRECT DIAL:** 415.371.2231

**DATE:** April 8, 2004

**USER NUMBER:**

**FILE NUMBER:** Atty. Docket No. R0495-00900 - Serial No.: 09/522,336

**TOTAL # OF PAGES:** 3  
(INCLUDING COVERSHEET)

**MESSAGE:** Attached is an *Communication And Response The Office Action Mailed 03/23/2004.*

*Please confirm receipt of this facsimile.*

NOTE: Original will NOT follow

CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE

THIS FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION IS PRIVILEGED AND CONFIDENTIAL AND IS INTENDED ONLY FOR THE REVIEW OF THE PARTY TO WHOM IT IS ADDRESSED. IF YOU HAVE RECEIVED THIS TRANSMISSION IN ERROR, PLEASE IMMEDIATELY TELEPHONE THE SENDER ABOVE TO ARRANGE FOR ITS RETURN, AND IT SHALL NOT CONSTITUTE WAIVER OF THE ATTORNEY-CLIENT PRIVILEGE.

If there is a problem with this transmission, please call us as soon as possible at 415.371.2200.

APR - 8 2004

OFFICIAL

PATENT

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the application of  
Vonderwalde et al.

) Examiner: Uyen T. Ho

) Group Art Unit: 3731

For: **STENT WITH COVER CONNECTORS**

Serial No.: 09/522,336

**COMMUNICATION AND RESPONSE  
TO OFFICE ACTION  
MAILED 03/23/2004**

Filed: March 9, 2000

Atty. Docket No.: R0495-00900

## CERTIFICATE OF MAILING PURSUANT TO 37 CFR 1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted by facsimile to Attn: Examiner Uyen T. Ho (703) 872-9306,  
Commissioner for Patents, p.o. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on April 8, 2004, in San Francisco, CA.By: Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450  
via FACSIMILE

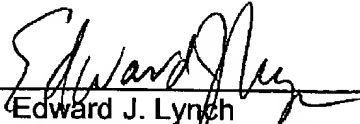
Dear Sir:

Applicants recently received an Office Action mailed March 23, 2004 from the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office in the above-referenced application. In this Office Action, the Examiner made reference to an amendment filed January 9, 2004 which appears to belong to a related case (U.S. Serial No. 09/522,335). Applicants herein suspect that the amendment filed January 9, 2004 was misfiled in the present application.

Furthermore, in this application (Serial No. 09/522,336), Applicants filed via facsimile on March 24, 2004 an *Amendment And Response To Office Action Mailed 12/04/2003* which was a day after the Office Action mailed on March 23, 2004. Applicants herein request examination and reconsideration of this application based on Applicants' amendment filed March 24, 2004 and not from that of the incorrectly filed

amendment filed January 9, 2004 which was intended for another patent prosecution application.

Respectfully submitted,

By:   
Edward J. Lynch  
Registration No. 24,422  
Attorney for Applicants

**DUANE MORRIS LLP**  
One Market  
Spear Tower, Ste. 2000  
San Francisco, CA 94105  
Telephone: (415) 371-2200  
Facsimile: (415) 371-2201  
Direct Dial: (415) 371-2267